

**AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**  
**and**  
**PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING**  
**for**  
**Rehabilitation of Great Falls Entrance Road, Lower Parking Lot, and Tavern Yard Area**

**CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK**  
**Montgomery County, Maryland**

**Proposed Project:**

The National Park Service (NPS), in cooperation with the Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division (EFLHD) of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the rehabilitation of the Great Falls entrance road, lower parking area, and the tavern yard area. The proposed project also includes construction of a new comfort station and installation of necessary equipment to upgrade the tavern's electrical, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems. The proposed improvements are located at the park's Great Falls visitor area near Potomac, Maryland. Recommendations consist primarily of maintenance activities, rehabilitation of existing facilities, and equipment upgrades. The new comfort station is proposed to meet current accessibility, maintenance, and health regulations. These actions are designed to extend the life of existing roadway and parking pavements as well as enhance safety and improve circulation. No realignment of roadways or parking areas is proposed.

**Public Information Meeting:**

A public information meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, November 18, 2004, between 7 and 9 p.m. at Rockwood Manor Park, 11001 MacArthur Boulevard, Potomac, MD. The purpose of this information meeting is to obtain comments and answer questions concerning the proposed improvements and the EA. Potential impacts of the proposed project, as well as possible temporary impacts due to construction activities, can be discussed at this meeting with individuals from these two agencies. Site area maps of the existing conditions and general information regarding the proposed project will be available for viewing and discussion. The Environmental Assessment is available for viewing at the following locations and web sites: C&O Canal National Historical Park's Great Falls Visitor Center, 11710 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac, MD 20854; C&O Canal National Historical Park headquarters, 1850 Dual Highway, Suite 100, Hagerstown, MD 21740; Montgomery County Public Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac, MD 20854; FHWA-EFLHD, 21400 Ridgetop Circle, Sterling, VA 20166; <http://www.nps.gov/choh/index.htm>; <http://www.efl.fhwa.dot.gov>

A short presentation will be made, beginning at 7 p.m., in order to provide an overview of the purpose and need for the project. At this time, no detailed designs have been started. These activities will begin once public comments are received at the conclusion of the comment period. Representatives of the NPS and the FHWA will be available after the short presentation to discuss the proposed project and answer questions.

All interested citizens and interest groups are invited to attend the public information meeting. The public information meeting provides a setting in which the NPS can make project information available to the general public while in the preliminary development stage. It also offers an opportunity for individuals, representatives of civic groups, public agencies, and governing bodies to offer comments, submit written material, ask questions regarding the proposed project, and be informed of the road design process.

If you wish to comment on this environmental assessment, you may mail comments to the address below. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. **If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments.** We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses available for public inspection in their entirety. Comments are due by December 6, 2004, and should be addressed to: Superintendent Kevin Brandt, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, 1850 Dual Highway, Suite 100, Hagerstown, MD 21740. If you require additional information or special assistance to attend and participate in this meeting, please contact either Mr. Robert Hartman, park Facility Manager, at (301) 714-2239 or Mr. Kevin Rose of FHWA at (571) 434-1552.



**National Park Service**  
**Chesapeake and Ohio National Historic Park**  
**Project CHOH 102(1)**

